

The Victorious Voice

November 2021

CHRISTUS
VICTOR
Lutheran Church

15600 North Tamiami Trail
Naples, Florida 34110-6245
(239) 597-1043
Rev. Thomas J. Slater, Pastor

Thanks Be To God, who gives us the victory through our Lord, Jesus Christ"
(I Cor. 15:57)
Don't just live...live victoriously!



Pastor Tom's Page

We have included in this newsletter a "Transition Time-Line" so that we continue to keep all the lines of communication and information flowing to each member of Christus Victor. Please review the time line and pray for the Holy Spirit to work through each of us to bring it to fruition.

Jesus said that the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. We are experiencing that here at Christus Victor in the wake of the Covid pandemic. If you are asked to serve in some capacity during the next six months, please pray fervently about your response. There are needs for outreach helpers to keep our programs going once Sherry retires. We will need ushers, greeters, and communion assistants once we are able to share communion and worship in our traditional style. We will need a tech person to live stream the worship starting as soon as possible. We will need people to help with Parish Life, Altar Guild, and every single other committee we have. It's time to step up and bring our church back to life again.

We need you and so does God! Remember the story from my sermon on October 17th about the rich man who was angry at God for not doing something about helping those in need? But God told the person, "I did, I created you."

Well, God created **YOU**, with unique gift and talents to share. Please pray about where you can use those talents best here at Christus Victor so that all may hear the Good News of Jesus Christ's love for all.

In Christ's service,

Pastor Tom



Transition Time-Line Dates to Remember

October 31st, November 7th: Call Committee Nominations announced and received (Nominations closed November 10th)

November 15th: Council Reviews Council/Call Committee Names

December 5th: Congregational Meeting (Budget/Elections). The Long Range Plan has been approved by the Congregation Council and will be presented at this meeting for the congregations consideration.

December 12th: CVLC History Day 9:30a.m.—10:30a.m.

December 20th: Council appoints Call Committee.

January 16th, 2022: Call Committee Installed.

January 17th, 2022: Council/Call Committee meet with Synod Representative.

January 23rd, 2022: Congregational Retreat with Kim Heindl.

February 2022: Call Committee begins to put together Mission Site Profile.



Long-Range Plan 2021-2025

The CVLC Long Range Plan is available to view within the latest CVLC weekly email that was sent out on October 29th. For those reading this newsletter as a hard copy or if you have problems viewing the CVLC Long Range Plan, please contact the church office for a hard copy.

Call Committee

Pastor Slater submitted his retirement date, April 30, 2022, to the Congregation Council on September 20, 2021. Our constitution states, "When a vacancy occurs in a position for which this congregation calls a rostered minister, a Call Committee of seven voting member (and two Alternates) shall be elected by this Congregation Council. The Call Committee shall work with the Bishop and Synod to help to determine pastoral and congregation needs and select an appropriate candidate to recommend to the Congregation Council and congregation."

After prayerful consideration, please nominate someone you feel has the appropriate gifts to serve on the Call Committee for Christus Victor Lutheran Church. (Guidelines for Choosing Members of the Call Committee are included in this newsletter). Please submit those names to Council President John Butcher at: fdccollect@aol.com by November 10th, 2021.

The congregation Council will review those names submitted at their November 15th, 2021 Council Meeting and vote on those names after prayerful deliberation, at their meeting on December 20th, 2021.



Updates - Planning for Pastoral Transition

Council and the Planning Committee have been completing the Florida-Bahamas Synod Transition Checklist for Congregations. All the Administrative and Financial items are scheduled to be completed by December 20, 2021. The required documents will be sent to the FL-BH Synod in late December. Completion of this part of the Pastoral transition process is necessary prior to installing the Call Committee. The only remaining item on this checklist is conducting a Ministry Focusing Retreat.

Kim Heindl, ELCA Deacon, will conduct our **Ministry Retreat on Sunday, January 23**. The Retreat will be held at the church following the second service, tentatively scheduled from 12 – 5:00pm.

The story of who we are as a community of faith continues to be written. As we look forward and seek who God is calling to serve our community as Senior Pastor it is crucial that we are clear about who we are and what our priorities are. We have scheduled a ½ day retreat to engage in scripture, prayer, dialogue, and discernment to help us all feel confident in the next most faithful step of identifying the best leadership for us at this time. The Call Committee will use the outcomes of the Ministry Retreat as they prepare our Ministry Site Profile.

Please mark your calendars now and save this date. It is important to hear all voices during this part of the planning process. Your participation and support are important.

Guidelines for Choosing Members of the Call Committee

Those responsible for selecting persons as nominees for the call committee have a very important task and should prayerfully approach their work seeking God's guidance. The constitution should be reviewed to determine any restrictions relating to the number of persons to serve on the committee, the method of election or appointment, whether alternates will be selected, and the nominating process that may be required. It is never wise to simply solicit volunteers for a call committee. Rather, a careful and thoughtful discernment process should be followed to ensure that the best possible candidates are considered and selected to serve. General characteristics and expectations of ALL persons who serve on the call committee include the following:

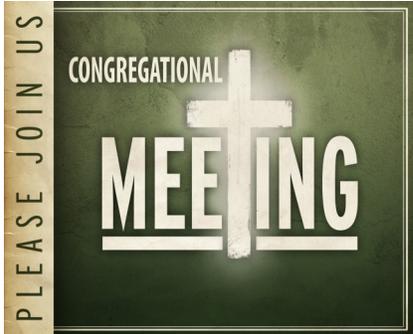
- **Strong evidence of faith** - Faithful worship participation should be a prerequisite for any person chosen to serve on the call committee. These people should be persons of prayer who will faithfully and carefully seek to discern God's will for this congregation.
- **Active in the life of the congregation** - call committee members should be involved the life and ministry of the congregation beyond worship, and familiar with its programs and activities. They will represent the importance of these ministries to potential pastors.
- **Positive and enthusiastic spirit** - The call committee will represent the congregation to the pastoral candidates during the interview process. They should have a deep sense of the vision and mission of the congregation. This is not a place for chronic complainers.
- **Faithful stewards** - Those who serve on the call committee should recognize that all that they have and are belongs to God. As good stewards, they are persons who share their gifts of time, talent and treasures in the ministry of God's Kingdom.
- **Commitment and follow-through** - The call committee is charged with a significant responsibility on behalf of the whole congregation. Meetings may be frequent and a willingness to share and participate faithfully in the work of the committee is critical.

Further, the call committee should be as representative of the whole congregation as is possible. Special consideration should be given to including:

Newer members and longer term members; Older and younger members, perhaps including a youth; Ethnic and cultural diversity; Balance of female and male members; Representation of various ministries and programs of the congregation.

Special notes:

1. Congregation members who are also employees or staff members of this congregation should not serve on the call committee because of potential conflict of interest.
2. Rostered persons, active or retired, or their spouse/partner should not serve on a call committee. There are other ways for these folks to share their input. An exception is that the senior pastor serves on the call committee to call an additional rostered leader.
3. It is not necessary for council members to serve on the call committee, and if desired, the maximum should be one; the council president should not serve on the call committee.



Congregational Meeting Notice

Sunday, December 5th after the 8:30 and

10:45 services we will hold our Congregational Meeting to vote on the 2022 Program and Spending Plan and to elect people to serve on our Church Council.

Copies of Program and Spending Plan have been emailed via the Weekly e-mail. Hard copies are available for your review. Call the church office to pick up a copy if you didn't get one via the weekly email. Don't miss this important meeting!



CVLC History Day December 12th 9:30a.m.—10:30a.m.

“What a congregation becomes in the future is related to what it was in the past. The time of pastoral change is a good time for a congregation to reflect on and learn from its history and past behavior patterns under the tenure of its former pastors.” (Florida Bahamas Synod Transitions Manual).

Did you ever wonder what it was like in the early days of Christus Victor? Do you know how we were started and what the first building on the property was? Come to this exciting event to hear the answers to these questions and so many more. Come and look at pictures and get a sense of where God might be calling us in the future.

In this relaxed atmosphere, we as a congregation, will be able to reflect on the past, share the enjoyment of the present, and dream about the future.

Don't miss this informative event which is part of the transition process for calling our next Pastor.

Church Council Candidate Bios

I would like to serve on the Church Council for the upcoming term because:

- I care for the CVLC congregation
- My experience in and with CVLC during the past 10 years has prepared me to make the best decisions for our transitioning congregation.

The gifts/talents I feel I can bring to the church are:

- Experience and participation in CVLC:
 - CVLC Treasurer 2017 - present
 - CVLC Endowment Board 2017 - present
 - CVLC Finance Committee 2015 - present
 - CVLC Long Range Planning Task Force 2020 - present
 - CVLC Council 2015-2020
- Earlier participation at CVLC:
 - Property
 - Parish Life
 - Usher

Richard H. Dougherty



I would like to serve on the Church Council for the upcoming term because:

I have an interest in helping keep our Church committed to its basic teachings, beliefs and mission. I have served on Lutheran Church Councils for three churches where I have been a member and have gotten a feeling of satisfaction for having contributed to the Church's mission.

The gifts/talents I feel I can bring to the Church are:

My professional training has been in mechanical engineering and business administration where degrees were received in both disciplines. My professional career was in the electric utility industry where I was involved as engineer and manager for the design and construction of power plants (nuclear and conventional). I can bring these technical and management skills to our Church's operations and missions.

James Helle (Jim)

Just a Reminder Worship Times & Protocols

We are back to two services, 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., so that we can provide enough space for everyone to worship safely.

All of our other protocols will stay in place as far as the requirement of wearing a mask, sanitizing our hands, and individual communion packets. I look forward to seeing you in church or online.

- No registration is required. Just show up! We are happy to see you!
- We have opened all rows in the sanctuary to create a greater opportunity for social distancing if desired, or for larger groups to sit together.
- Masks will be required in the church building during worship so that we can continue to provide the greatest safety for all our members and visitors and so that we can continue to sing along with the hymns.

As a community of believers, we are called to watch out for one another and to keep the most vulnerable among us as safe as possible. We are grateful for your patience during these difficult and uncertain times. We come on Sundays to worship and praise the Lord, and the “how” we must worship is not as important as the call to focus on the “reason” we worship. JOIN US EACH WEEK and PRAY OFTEN!

Blessings,
Pastor Tom



Reminder!!
Turn your clocks back
one hour
Saturday, November 6th
before going to bed!

Online Giving

We have had a number of questions about opportunities to continue contributing to CVLC when we don't attend services. One option is to mail your checks to the church (we have a secure mailbox) **15600 Tamiami Trail N., Naples, FL 34110**. Another option is to use our E-Giving program as follows:

Go to the CVLC website (www.christusvictorfl.org).

Click on "Give" (upper right)

Under "Two Ways to Enroll" click on "online"

Then indicate the amount you wish to contribute

Choose the frequency using the drop-down

Create your Online Profile so that you can easily return to your online account

Click on "Continue" at bottom left and follow the prompts.

You have the option of having the contributions come directly from your checking account (our preference), or you can make contributions via credit card (this option deducts at least 2.5% from your contribution before it gets to us).

If you have any questions or need assistance with setting up the account, please contact CVLC Treasurer (Doc) at 509-595-7399.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship

This year we will be celebrating Thanksgiving Eve on Wednesday, November 24th at 11:00a.m. We will "live stream" the worship so that everyone will be able to watch at their convenience if they are unable to make it at 11:00a.m. The entire staff at Christus Victor wishes everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.

*Give Thanks to the Lord,
for He is good.
Psalm 107:1*



YARD SALE UPDATE...

Well...the Yard Sale looked like it has in years past, but the event was certainly not the same!

Regardless, we thank everyone who took the time to bring in their good “stuff” to raise funds for the new Mission Start at Babcock Ranch in Fort Myers.

There were plenty of things to be had and we hope you found some treasures you didn't even know you needed, or just a few things to add some “new” touches to your home.

As of this date: We have raised \$2,200.00 + & there's 1 more week!!

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST @ 10:00 am - we will begin the process of wrapping up items that we have kept back for the Immokalee Friendship House Christmas Store.

If you are able to join us on November 1st, bring along a few shirt boxes and some tissue paper and join in the fun of organizing!!

After this, we will begin the process of donating all the remaining items to various charities and thrift shoppes around our community. We are, however, still taking donations for this effort, so if you are interested in giving to this cause please write a check to Christus Victor and put “Yard Sale” in the Memo Line.





From the Desk of the Synod Parish Deacon

I want to thank everyone who attended the adult forum. During the six sessions, the discussions were soulful and personal and I enjoyed leading the discussion.

We will continue to live stream the early service starting at 8:15. The service will be archived and available after 9:30. I pray to God to keep everyone safe and ask him to send the Holy Spirit to guide everyone to get vaccinated and wear a mask.

M.E.L.S, ((M)en (E)ating (L)earning and (S)upporting), our men's ministry group is cancelled until further notice.

I pray for guidance and look forward to continuing to serve the members of Christus Victor Lutheran Church.

Blessings,

Gerry Benjamin
Synod Parish Deacon



**Monday,
November 15th
10:00a.m.—11:00a.m.**

We will not be doing the evening Drive-Through anymore. If 10:00-11:00a.m. does not work for you, please call the church office, 597-1043, and we can set up a time for you to pick up Communion that is convenient for you.

Sick or Hospitalized?

Please tell us if you or someone you know in the congregation will be hospitalized or in need of a visit as we are not routinely notified by local hospitals when members are admitted. The office number is 597-1043. Prayer for one another is understanding love.

Music Notes by Joyce Reitz, Director of Music



As we continue our journey through this Pandemic, may we feel the Spirit of our Lord, the Good Shepherd, watching over us. As we approach Thanksgiving be sure and give thanks to God for all we have been provided.

Soon we will be embarking on the season of Advent the last Sunday of November. Al Zipperle will play that Sunday for me as I spend time with my nephew and family. Thank you Al!

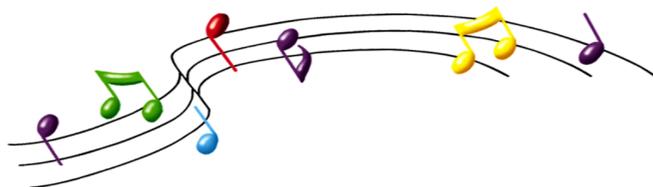
I also want to thank Carol Dougherty for playing two Sundays in October for me. She has been a blessing and I so appreciate her help.

I will keep you posted should we be able to start choir again. At this time, I can't answer that question that so many of you keep asking me.

I continue my cancer treatment and I continue to feel fine. With your prayers and God's grace I will surmount this bump on the road. I do want to thank you all for your prayers and love. It is helping!

May God bless our congregation as we continue to move forward!

Until next month, keep a song in your hearts! Joyce



Christmas Giving Tree

It's hard to believe Christmas is next month. The Giving Tree will be in place in the narthex in time for Thanksgiving. Here's how it works. First, select an ornament from the tree. They are labeled according to age and gender. Choose a gift and place the gift under the tree. The suggested value for all gifts is approximately \$10.

Please do not wrap children's gifts as they will be displayed in Guadalupe's "Christmas Store" where parents will select the gifts they want. Adult gifts should be wrapped.

Gifts should be returned by Sunday, December 5th, to be sorted and delivered to the Immokalee Friendship House and the Guadalupe Center.

The Christmas of someone needing a helping hand will be brightened, and so will yours!

SUGGESTED GIFTS FOR THE GUADALUPE CENTER (CHILDREN):

Action Figures
Arts and Crafts
Dolls
Stuffed Animals
Learning Toys
Pretend Play and Dress Up clothes
Sporting Goods
Gift Cards for Children Age 13-17 Years (Target, Wal-Mart, Best Buy)

SUGGESTED GIFTS FOR IMMOKALEE FRIENDSHIP HOUSE (ADULTS):

Disposable Razors, Shaving Cream
Towels, Washcloths (both bath and dish)
Men's, Women's, and Children's Underwear and Socks, especially sizes 32 through 36 waist for the men
Men's jeans, sizes 32-36 waist
Men's and women's shoes
Bibles, especially in Spanish
Blankets, Sheets, Pillowcases (mostly twin size)
Phone Cards
Baseball Caps
Watches



Sunday School

Children and Youth: Sundays 9:30-10:30am Come in person or watch online! Online Sunday School can be found on our church YouTube channel. Please join us as we learn about God's love in a fun and vibrant way. Follow CVLC on Facebook for talking points about the theme throughout the week.

The theme for November is **Contentment: Learning to be okay with what you have.** *Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has." —Luke 12:15*

Date Bottom Line

Nov 7 God can help you be content.

Nov 14 Wanting what others have can make you miserable.

Nov 21 Don't miss out on what you have now.

Nov 28 ****No Sunday School, but you can watch the video on the CVLC YouTube channel****

Bible Story

Be Content, Philippians 4:11b-13

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard, 1 Kings 21:1-19,27

Israelites Long for Egypt, Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7

Remember to take time throughout the week to talk to your children about the bottom line. Ask questions, listen to their answers, and be prepared to share your own personal story. *"The solution for being content is trusting God—in all circumstances, trusting in the One who is able to meet your needs each day."* Carey Nieuwohof

Breakfast Club: Sundays 9:30-10:30am This new group for parents gathers for fellowship, a lesson, and a light continental breakfast. In November, our very own "Brain Lady", Deb Burdick, will be presenting. Deb is a retired psycho-therapist, author, and creator of games for those with ADHD, as well as an expert in mindfulness. The topics for November are:

Nov 7 ADHD in Children

Nov 14 ADHD in Adults

Nov 21 Mindfulness Skills for Children

Nov 28 ****No Breakfast Club****

Dec 5 Mindfulness Skills for Parenting

Adult Bible Fellowship: Sundays 9:30-10:30am Join other adults for interesting discussions on a variety of topics. The November discussions are:

Nov 7 *Jesus: The God Who Knows Your Name* led by Deacon Gerry Benjamin

Nov 14-Dec 12 *The Gospel According to Job* led by June McCarthy

Youth Group: Wednesdays 6-7:30pm Youth in 6th to 12th grade gather for a lesson, food, fellowship, and fun! Contact Susan O'Brien susanobrien@cvcfl.org for more information or to be included in the text group.

****Masks are required inside all CVLC buildings****

Sunday Learning Opportunities

Masks are required inside all CVLC buildings at this time.

Our Church Council is monitoring safety guidelines, so adjustments to classes may be made as more information is available.



Sunday School

9:30-10:30am

Children and youth will start and end their class in the Large Gathering Room before being dismissed to their classrooms.

Sunday School videos will also be available online each week.

Adult Bible Fellowship

9:30 –10:30am

Nov 7 — *Jesus: The God Who Knows Your Name*; led by Deacon Gerry Benjamin

Nov 14-Dec 12 — *The Gospel According to Job*; led by June McCarthy

****No Adult Bible Fellowship Nov 28****



Breakfast Club

9:30—10:30am



This parenting group will meet weekly to discuss topics interesting to the parents in the group. Please join us for interesting discussions, fellowship, and yes, some breakfast items!

****No Breakfast Club Nov 28****

Breakfast Club

Dear Parents of Sunday School Aged Children,

Please join us for a light Continental Breakfast at 9:30 on Sunday Mornings. We are currently meeting in the Cafe'. The first Sunday in November, the 7th, we will move to our permanent spot. That is the Old Narthex. Susan has it set up as a Resource Room for parents. And, we will have a very homey atmosphere there.

As we move forward, we will be entertaining many avenues of Christian Sunday School Programs. We will be Studying Books, Dissecting Christian Contemporary Music and relating them to Scripture, having Guest Speakers, TED talks, and many more avenues for learning.

Our November Breakfast Club schedule will include a guest speaker. Our own BRAINLADY, Deb Burdick, will speak to the Breakfast Club. Deb is a retired Psycho-therapist, a Best Selling Author, an Expert in ADHD, and an Expert in Mindfulness Skills. So, don't miss this opportunity to glean some information regarding these mentioned subjects. The Schedule is as follows:

The Brainlady Series Dates are:

Week 1 - November 7th - ADHD in Children

Week 2 - November 14th - ADHD in Adults

Week 3 - November 21st - Mindfulness Skills for Children

Week 4 - December 5th - Mindfulness Skills for Parenting

Any comments or questions are welcome. Please contact me at either kimaolson56@gmail.com or 239-776-1655.

Hugs and Prayers, Kim Olson

Education Team Meeting

**Our team works best with a lot of different voices.
Teachers, helpers, planners, and supporters are all welcome!!!**

Volunteering



...is a work of heart

**Come or Zoom into the next Education Team meeting on Nov 11 at 6pm
Or contact Susan O'Brien susanobrien@cvcfl.org or 239-597-1043**



CVLC Youth Craft Bazaar

Our high school youth will be traveling to Minneapolis, MN in 2022 for the ELCA's National Youth Gathering. This is a time for our youth to be affirmed and challenged in their faith, experience new perspectives, ponder their vocation, bond with our congregational group, and learn more about the ELCA.

As part of our fundraising efforts, the youth will be holding a craft bazaar on **December 5 at 9:30am**, during the Sunday School hour. We welcome crafts from our incredibly talented congregation! Thank you to those who have already donated crafts.

Please mark December 5 on your calendar as a time to pick up some unique gifts for your loved ones and support the youth at the same time!

Mary Martha Circle November 9th 9:30a.m In Person at CVLC or Zoom

Session 3: Wind of God: Refiner and Re-router

The Holy Spirit is the wind of God, moving us into deeper faithfulness and more authentic love. We'll see the ways in which God's Spirit moves us to bear good fruit in the world and refines us into our truest selves. We will also follow the Spirit's movements through the early church to see how the Spirit re-routes God's people, guiding us into transformed lives and renewed communities of faith.

Join us via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84690901121?pwd=cCtoU0V3RUROZnNSbzBTTTdpZk5wZz09>



Decorate the Church Saturday, November 27th 9:00 a.m.

Please join us as we gather to decorate our church for the Christmas and Advent Seasons. The more hands we have, the better it will be, so come out to help us beautify God's Sanctuary. **We need help and are in need of people willing and able to climb ladders.**

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Use this link to make sure that you are donating to us:
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-1721010>

Or you can go to smile.amazon.com, click "Get Started", and search for Christus Victor Lutheran Church. There are several churches with our name, so please make sure that you look for the one in Naples, Florida.

THANK YOU !

Stewardship

Thanksgiving's path to contentment

"Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content." —**Hebrews 13:5**

What would it take to make you happy? Really. In our culture, advertisements sell us on the idea that true happiness is always just one more purchase away. When we believe this, we put ourselves on the hamster wheel of want. No matter how hard we run, we will never get to happiness.

More often than happiness, the Bible speaks of contentment. The two concepts are often confused, but the distinction is important. Whereas happiness is a pleasurable sensation that rises and falls like the tide, contentment is a state of satisfaction that remains calm, like the surface of a pond.

God calls us to live contentedly, finding sufficiency in our lives, our relationships, and all we possess. We are enough. We have enough. When our essential needs are met, incessant wants do not infest our soul like itchy fleas.

How do we find contentment? Thankfulness provides a way. We give thanks for all we are and all we have, appreciating every blessing. Since this is the month of Thanksgiving, make a pledge to yourself this November to find contentment through giving thanks. Make a "Gratitude List" of everything for which you are thankful. Review it daily, praying over each blessing, "I thank God for" Add to it as you think of new things.

May you finish November as someone who is not only thankful, but also content with all you are and all you have.

--Rob Blezard. Copied with permission.



THERE IS
always, always,
ALWAYS
something
to be thankful for

SENIOR MINISTRY..

Here we are – November 2021
– On this side, hopefully, of a pandemic that has changed the world in the way we do things and see things...*it's humbling!*



This year, as we should do daily, when your family and friends gather round the Thanksgiving table, **before** you take one bite of food or dig into that pumpkin pie, engage in a tradition of not only toasting your loved ones – present and far away - but also **SHARE WITH EACH OTHER WHAT YOU'RE THANKFUL FOR!** These wonderful “statements” from young and old alike will remind everyone that the true meaning of this THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY is GRATITUDE.

Oprah made this wonderful statement that **“Focusing on one thing that you are grateful for increases the energy of gratitude and rises the joy inside yourself.”**

If you have **enough to eat**...be grateful, *many do not*. If you have **a roof** over your head...be grateful, *many do not*. If you have plenty of decent **clothes** to wear...be grateful, *many do not*. If you have enough resources that you don't go to sleep worried or concerned...be grateful, *MANY do not*.

COVID has left so many in our communities worried and without the right resources.

This Thanksgiving, lift up prayers of thanks to the Father who has given you all the many blessings you have to be grateful for!





Christus Victor will be serving for Cafe of Life again this year. As a result of Covid, the meals will be less elaborate. They will be boxed and handed out as opposed to being on site. Therefore, if you would like to participate, you can furnish part of the meal and drop it off or stay and hand them out.

We will be serving 2 days a month January through April. If this sounds like a way you would like to serve the Lord's people, contact me, Dannee Barkow at 239-498-1667.



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29th 10:30a.m.

SENIOR MINISTRY – PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY DAY!

We are still helping the senior population of our community by working with the Café of Life to provide a Peanut Butter & Jelly meal once a month.

There is a small, but powerful, group of volunteers here at CVLC who social distance and wear masks but can turn 4-5 loaves of bread into PB & J Sandwiches quicker than you can think it!

DO YOU WANT TO HELP??

You could take a loaf of bread and turn it into your own group of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and bring them to the church for distribution.

You could donate any of the items listed above. Each time we cook we make at least 25, so that would be the starting donation amount for each item.

OR JOIN US ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH @ 10:30 AM in the Social Hall of the Education Building and help us make sandwiches!





HELP – Sherry will be retiring at the end of December and this program needs a leader to keep it going. She will be very happy to help you learn the ropes and introduce you to the contacts.

If you are interested in learning more about this program, or are interested in taking a leadership role, even for the short term until a new staff person is hired, please call her at the church – 239-597-1043, or email her at seniorministry@cvlcfl.org.



**Mark your Calendars for a
Women's Christmas Program**

to be held on
**Tuesday, December 7th at 10:00 am for a Light Brunch of
Muffins, Yogurt, and Fruit Cups.**

This will be Sherry's last event here at Christus Victor as the Director of Senior Ministry, and **we'd love it if all the women could join us for this celebration during the wonderful season of Advent.**

It's a great way to get in the "SPIRIT OF THE SEASON."

We will again be holding a "BABY SHOWER" at the event to help out young mothers in our community through the Café of Life. Start collecting Diapers, Wipes, Toys, Bottles, Clothing, Rattles, Blankets, and the like.

Signup sheets are now in the church narthex or e-mail Sherry!



THE MEMBERS OF CVLC ARE SUCH A BLESSING TO OUR COMMUNITY



CONGRATULATIONS TO GEORGE & JANE TURZYN who on October 6th delivered their 1,011th meal to the Café of Life for the Senior Meal Program. They started delivering meals for Seniors in November of 2018. Their goal??? ...To attempt to tie Jesus feeding of the 5,000 – which as George puts it is only 3,989 more meals to go!!

WONDERFUL JOB YOU TWO – a small effort going a long way! Their most recent meal was this mock Chicken Pot Pie with a croissant and a side of mashed potatoes – looks

These are a few of the people we serve:



THANK YOU TO GERRY BENJAMIN, LESLIE THOMPSON, AND GISELA GRINDLE for being October's CVLC Senior Meal Helpers!

Gerry provided a delicious "Shepherd's Pie" with Leslie and Gisela providing the sides to the 24 Senior's we provide meals for twice a month.

Additional bags were provided to each Senior containing a variety of food and personal care items. Thank you to ALL who donate to this cause!!

HELP – Sherry will be retiring at the end of December and this program needs a leader to keep it going. She will be very happy to help you learn the ropes and introduce you to the contacts.

If you are interested in learning more about this program, or are interested in taking a leadership role, even for the short term until a new staff person is hired, please call her at the church – 239-597-1043, or write her at seniorministry@cvlcfl.org.



CVLC PRAYER CELLS

One of the most important, but often overlooked and undervalued ministry's CVLC provides are **Prayer Cells** of individual members who have committed to praying for people who are both members of the church, as well as friends & family members, etc. Sherry has been leading this small but mighty group of people for the last 25 + years – ***and now it's time for new leadership.***

It's not a difficult ministry, it's not an overly time-consuming ministry, but it's so important and a great blessing to know there are those willing to pray for our needs...

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO SERVE IN THIS CAPACITY?

This ministry will fold on January 1, 2022, if a new leader is not determined. Please pray about your time commitments and where God would have you serve within Christus Victor. There are several ministries that need help to make sure they continue as the viable ministries they currently are, and YOU could make the difference.

Please consider volunteering in some capacity to help the church.



Christmas is right around the corner and there are several projects we are going to be undertaking to help those less fortunate in our community:

#1 – The Immokalee Friendship House

I need shirt boxes – desperately!! Please consider purchasing or go through your Christmas boxes and see if you have any to spare. They can be brought to the church and **put in the Outreach Room in the box marked “shirt boxes”**.

Be on the lookout for the Christmas Giving Tree with the slips of paper to purchase a gift for someone...man, woman, or children.

#2 – The Shelter for Abused Women:

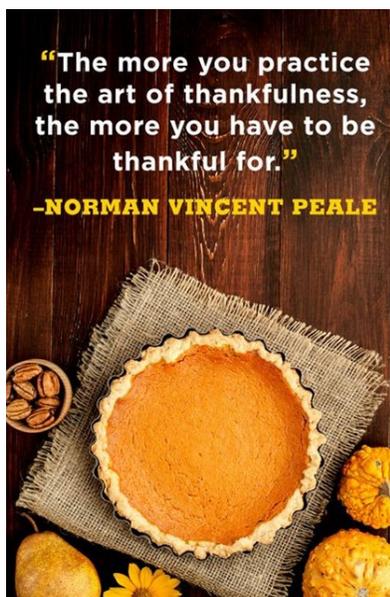
We will again be filling up left over bags from the yard sale with full size items for the women in the Shelter. Please bring your items in and **put them in the Outreach Room in the box marked “Shelter Items”**.

Here’s what we need...

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
- New makeup items
- Brushes / combs



If you would prefer to bring a gift certificate for the Women, please consider getting a gift certificate from Publix, Walmart, or the Dollar Tree. These are always greatly appreciated!



**A SLIDE PRESENTATION with PIZZA!
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16th @ 11:30 AM**

Interested in Wildlife?

Want to learn a bit more about the Wildlife that's in our beautiful State of Florida?

Then you'll want to join us in the Christus Victor Adult Forum Room on **Tuesday, November 16th starting at 11:30 am** for an amazing slide show presentation *by Christus Victor's very own Member Greg Olson!*

First, we'll all enjoy some fellowship time along with some Domino's Pizza and Salad!

Next, Greg will share his incredible selection of pictures as he tells us about the various birds, animals, and plants here in Florida.

Sign up is very important so we have a correct count for food. Please sign up after church – there's a sign-up form in the narthex, call the church office at 239-597-1043 to sign up, or e-mail Sherry at seniorministry@cvlcfl.org.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to get to know some of God's beautiful creations through this powerful presentation. NO Cost – Sponsored by Senior Ministry!



**CALLING ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE SERVED IN ANY
BRANCH OF THE MILITARY...**

Well...our very own quilter extraordinaire, Nancy Linzmeyer, has once again donated an amazing quilt to CVLC to honor one of you who has served in any branch of our United States Military!

This quilt is currently on display in the church narthex, and by the quilt is a box with registration forms for any veteran to fill out and enter to win this fantastic gift. Not joining us at church yet – no worries, e-mail Sherry and she'll get your name in for you!

On Sunday, November 7th – a few days before Veterans Day [Thursday, November 11th] – Pastor Slater will draw one of the names in between the services to see who has won. All veterans will be honored during the service. So, get your name in to win as soon as possible!





GET STARTED READING NOW FOR THE CVLC BOOK CLUB!

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30th @ 1:00 PM: THE GROUP HAS DECIDED TO
HOLD A NOVEMBER SESSION: The book they'll be reading is:**

***The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich.**

Grab a copy and join them.

December – No Book Club

START READING FOR SEASON...Dates to be determined...

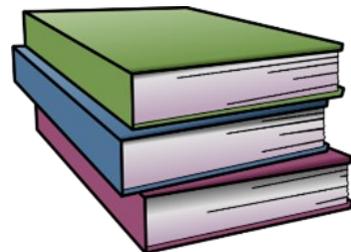
January's Book:

THE UNLIKELY PILGRIMAGE OF HAROLD FRY by Rachel Joyce

February's Book:

SURVIVING SAVANNAH by Patti Henry

March's Book: *To be determined*



HELP

*Great opportunities to help others seldom come,
but small ones surround us every day. ...Sally Koch*

LET'S HELP THE COMMUNITY!

There are many organizations we donate to that are in need of unexpired ***canned food*** items of any type!! Vegetables, Fruits, Soups, Meats, and Complete Meal Cans like Spaghetti or Beefaroni.

They could also use any type of full-size ***Cleaning and Personal Care Products*** you could donate.

Likewise, paper products like ***Kleenex, Toilet Paper, and Paper Towels***.

Items can be brought into the church during the week, or feel free to bring them on Sunday Mornings and put them in the Grocery Carts in the Outreach Room...

Thanks so much for anything you can contribute!

*The meaning of life is to find your gift.
The purpose of life is to give it away. ...Pablo Picasso*

Thank you Stephen Stidinger for the wonderful and informative postings on the Christus Victor Facebook page!!! Now all the congregation has to do is . . .



AND



You Tube™ Visit the Christus Victor YouTube channel to view our worship services. Please copy and paste the link below into your browser.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGS9TN9p5QWOIMIE0mGCCdw>



Daily Grace is an on-the-go companion for your journey, offering a faith reflection every day. Encounter God's extravagant, boundless and often surprising grace by signing up for a daily email message. Please copy and paste the link below into your browser. You can also download the newly updated app for your IOS and Android devices. <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/blog/category/daily-grace>



Blood pressure is no joke!

We encourage **EVERYONE** to monitor your blood pressure. Make sure to get some exercise in your day and strive to eat as healthy as possible!

God wants us to treat our bodies like the temple they are.



November		
3	Lisa DeCarlo Cayse Dennis	
5	Dorothy Thomas Autumn Zimny	
6	Bill Kennedy Iva Sweet	
10	Connor O'Leary	
12	Autumn Walker	
13	Andres Reyes	
15	Armin Pavlovic	
21	Margit Cofield	
24	John Hart	
24	Patricia Zaczek	
30	Jacob LaMure	
		 Happy Birthday

<p>A very Happy Birthday to each and every one of you! May the year ahead be filled with wonderful memories to cherish, and opportunities to serve God wherever He places them.</p>	<p>If your birthday is incorrect or missing, please contact the church office (597-1043) so we can change or update our records. Thank you.</p>
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CVLC FINANCIAL REPORT

thru September 2021

General Operating Donations (Income) vs Operating Expenditures				
	Operating Contributions	Operating Expenditures	Net Operating Income	Dedicated Contributions
September 2021	\$33,881.90	\$36,003.78	(\$2,121.88)	\$4,226.00
Year-to-Date	\$435,518.79	\$346,575.66	\$88,943.13	\$94,643.46
Previous YTD	\$481,897.21	\$363,517.78	\$118,379.43	\$44,693.75
YTD 2021/2020 (%)	-9.6%	-4.7%	-24.9%	211.8%
Selected Dedicated Fund Contributions				
	September 2021	2021 YTD	2020 YTD	
ELCA Hunger	\$490.00	\$11,100.00	\$17,887.50	
Additional Pastor	\$100.00	\$2,125.00	\$2,735.50	
Victory Park	\$70.00	\$1,805.00	\$2,692.50	
Missionary Support	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,067.25	
Disaster Relief	\$1,345.00	\$5,490.00	\$1,655.00	
Memorials	\$0.00	\$1,175.00	\$1,430.00	
God's Work Our Hands*	\$1,721.00	\$15,716.00	\$3,065.00	
Fund for Leaders	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	
Endowment Principal	\$0.00	\$51,325.00	\$825.00	
Bells and Bell Choir	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Senior Assistance	\$100.00	\$1,945.00	\$3,535.00	
Youth Related	\$0.00	\$1,311.46	\$330.00	
*Babcock Ranch				
In Christ, Richard H. Dougherty, Treasurer				

CHURCH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES



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Associate Member Rep.



SHARING CHRIST THAT ALL MIGHT LIVE VICTORIOUSLY!!

Sunday Worship Services – 8:30a.m & 10:45a.m.

Church Office Hours – Monday thru Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Friday Office closed

Phone (239)597-1043 Fax (239) 597-6028

Web page: www.christusvictorfl.org

E-mail: ChristusVictor@cvlcfl.org

THE REV. THOMAS J. SLATER, PASTOR
cell - 239-450-0699

Dawn King
Office Administrator

Joyce Reitz
Director of Music

Susan O'Brien
Director of Education & Youth

Sherry Slater
Director of Senior Ministries

Gerry Benjamin
Synod Parish Deacon